

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): A process for preparing a perfluoroelastomer seal material comprising a step of treating a perfluoroelastomer molded article with a solvent having at least 50 % of a swelling rate based on said molded article, when said molded article is immersed at 60°C for 70 hours,

wherein said molded article is obtained by crosslinking a perfluoroelastomer through at least one crosslinking system selected from the group consisting of an imidazole crosslinking system, a triazine crosslinking system, an oxazole crosslinking system and a thiazole crosslinking system.

wherein a volume of the untreated molded article is C as measured by the underwater substitution method, a volume of the molded article in a state of swelling is D and the swelling rate of the molded article is calculated by $[(D-C)/C] \times 100$ (%).

6. (new): The process for preparing a perfluoroelastomer seal material of Claim 5, wherein a rate of weight decrease of the perfluoroelastomer sealing material is at most 1% by weight when the seal material is dried at 90°C for 5 hours, 125°C for 5 hours and 200°C for 10 hours after immersing into perfluoro(tri-n-butyl) amine at 60°C for 70 hours and taking out the same.

7. (new): The process for preparing a perfluoroelastomer seal material of Claim 6, wherein said rate of weight decrease is at most 0.5% by weight.

8. (new): The process for preparing a perfluoroelastomer seal material of Claim 6, wherein said rate of weight decrease is at most 0.1% by weight.

9. (new): The process for preparing a perfluoroelastomer seal material of Claim 5, wherein the perfluoroelastomer sealing material has a swelling rate of at most 300% when immersed into perfluoro(tri-n-butyl) amine at 60°C for 70 hours after carrying out heat treatment at 300°C for 70 hours.